



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: A Resolution in Opposition to the Conversion of the Northern California Women's Facility (NWCF) to a Men's Facility under Senate Bill 1298

MEETING DATE: April 19, 1995

PREPARED BY: City Attorney

RECOMMENDATION: Council consideration and possible action.

BACKGROUND: This matter has been placed on the agenda by Councilmember Jack Sieglock for consideration and possible action. The concern involves Senate Bill 1298 which proposes the conversion of the Northern California Women's Facility (NWCF) to a men's facility. That would mean an increase from an 800-bed women's prison to an all male facility housing 1350 prisoners. This plan has already received statements of opposition from various quarters, including the City of Stockton (see attached letter of opposition).


The major points of concern are the traffic congestion impact on Highway 99, impact on public facilities and resources, and the local impression that San Joaquin County is being used as a "dumping ground" for state prisoners and penal facilities.

This is compounded by the fact that many prisoners remain in the area upon release, thereby aggravating an already unacceptable crime rate.

If adopted, copies of the attached resolution will be presented to appropriate officials.

FUNDING: None

Respectfully submitted


Bob W. McNatt
City Attorney

APPROVED: _____

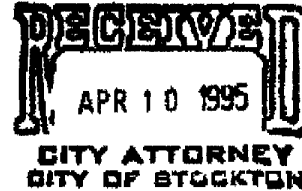
THOMAS A. PETERSON
City Manager



CITY OF STOCKTON

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JOAN DARRAH
MAYOR



April 5, 1995

Senator Patrick Johnston
2068 Capitol Bldg.
Sacramento, CA 95814

PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO CONVERT THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S FACILITY (NWCFF) TO A MEN'S FACILITY (SB1298)

The Stockton City Council has recently considered the proposed legislation that has been introduced as Senate Bill 1298. If adopted, this bill would approve an appropriation for the purpose of converting the Facility from an institution that is housing women to an institution housing men.

The proposal is currently to expand the facility from an 800-bed facility to 1350 beds. In order to make this possible, there would have to be at least two major additional buildings built within the presently fenced area. It is our understanding the proposal also is requesting an appropriation of approximately \$400,000. Of the \$400,000, approximately \$200,000 would go to the County and \$200,000 to the Superintendent of Schools. This appropriation does not consider any of the impacts that would be placed on the City's facilities. For example, based on the additional traffic counts, we believe that if this proposal were for a private company to locate in this area and utilize the Arch-Sperry Road/99 overcrossing, CalTrans would be attempting to get a commitment from that entity in the amount of \$1 million for future overpass construction. This amount is arrived at by assuming estimated 4% impact on that overpass. Since the overpass is already outdated, a new overpass would cost approximately \$25 million and 4% of \$25 million is \$1 million.

A far bigger issue with the City of Stockton is the additional underground water that would be necessary in which to serve a greater jail population. It should be noted that in 1982 the original EIR for this project only considered a 400-inmate facility. The current proposal is to put in excess of 1,300 inmates at that facility; therefore, the impact on the underground aquifers in this critically overdrafted area is unacceptable. This is a major impact on the underground water and the City does not

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understand how the State can possibly consider exempting the expansion of this facility from the CEQA process as suggested in Senate Bill 1298.

Last but not least, the expansion of a facility like this will place additional demands upon law enforcement agencies in San Joaquin County. The Stockton Metropolitan area in San Joaquin County is doing more than our fair share on a per capita basis. We believe that other metropolitan areas ought to share in the burden of housing inmates and that our county not become a dumping ground.

We urge your support, along with Assemblymember Machado's support, to defeat this legislation.



JOAN DARRAH
MAYOR

JD:tf

cc: Stockton City Council
Dwane Milnes, City Manager
R. Thomas Harris, City Attorney
Assemblymember Mike Machado
Senator Johannessen

RESOLUTION NO. 95-56

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL
IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 1298, PROPOSING THE
CONVERSION OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S
FACILITY (NCWF) TO A LARGER MEN'S PRISON

WHEREAS, under Senate Bill 1298, it has been proposed that the 800-bed Northern California Women's Facility (NCWF) would be converted to a 1350-bed men's prison; and

WHEREAS, this proposal does not consider the negative impacts which would occur in San Joaquin County, including but not limited to traffic impacts on major highways, additional burdens on public facilities and resources, and an increase in an already excessive crime rates when parolees remain in the area upon release; and

WHEREAS, it appears that San Joaquin County is carrying more than its fair share of responsibility for problems associated with the state's penal system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Lodi as follows:

That the City Council hereby expresses its opposition to Senate Bill 1298, which would convert the Northern California Women's Facility to a men's facility and increase the capacity from 800 to 1350 beds.

Dated: April 19, 1995

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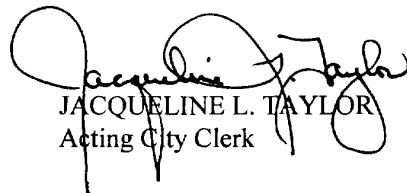
I hereby certify that Resolution No. 95-56 was passed and adopted by the Lodi City Council in a regular meeting held April 19, 1995, by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members - Davenport, Pennino, Sieglock, Warner and
Mann (Mayor)

NOES: Council Members - None

ABSENT: Council Members - None

ABSTAIN: Council Members - None

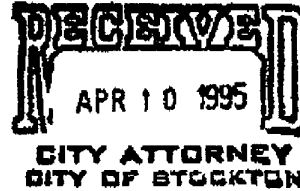

JACQUELINE L. TAYLOR
Acting City Clerk



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April 5, 1995

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